

Randall Robinson:

His torrid shooting sparked Mavs to continued seasons of success

By Bruce Smith
Matchup

Mountain View basketball fans will remember Randall Robinson for being one of the best three-point shooters in school history.

Robinson, of course, will have his own memories. The one thing that stands out for him was how different his three years were here.

As a sophomore, he got hurt going into the season but relished watching the Mavericks capture the school's first 5A basketball title.

His junior year, he made a name for himself for his extraordinary outside shooting, where he easily broke the school record for three-point accuracy. His record-setting performances started out unexpected and played a big role in the Mavericks' continued success.

He was a starter during his senior season and, with Mountain View having little size, gave the team another outside-scoring threat.

"He was one of our best shooters," said coach Jon Nettleton. "He was a funny kid with a unique sense of humor. He was a great teammate ... almost too nice, but played hard."

If you combine his accomplishments, the thing that stands out most was that he was a winner. In three seasons, Robinson ended his career being part of the most successful history (so far) of Mountain View basketball.

"My role was providing a lot of leadership," he said. "I tried not to be just a catch and shoot shooter. I started to go to the basket and get to the free throw line more. I did a lot better shooting free throws. I even did even better than Tanner (Percifield), but he shot a lot more."

His success started as early as eighth grade,



Randall Robinson left Mountain View as its most accurate three-point shooter – a record that may last a while.

Robinson's highlights

- * - **YOUNGEST** of six children. Family moved to Meridian from Tualatin, Ore.
- * - **TWO-SPORT ATHLETE** growing up, but injuries made him choose to give up football.
- * - **CLOSEST FRIENDS** on the team were Tanner Percifield, Marcus Slocum and Ethan Secrist.
- * - **SCORED 361 POINTS** in his MV career and broke three school records.



when he and Percifield combined to lead their AAU team to an undefeated season. Robinson also played football, but a series of injuries, including a discouraging accident on a trampoline his sophomore year, created a few obstacles.

Robinson recovered, however, and the accolades followed.

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* - His three-pointer at the end of the first quarter keyed Mountain View's first-round win over Eagle in the 5A state tournament last year.

* - As a senior, he had a career-high 19-point performance in a win over Centennial. He also got on a hot streak against Vallivue, scoring 11 points in a five-minute stretch against the Falcons. He also sang the National Anthem prior to the Mavericks' "Stinky Sneaker" game against Meridian.

"That was a special experience. It was nerve wracking," he recalled. "People told me I did a good job. They were surprised that I can sing."

His highlights continued right after graduation. A couple of months after he left Mountain View, he began a long-awaited two-year LDS Church mission to Southern California.

"My best memory (of high school) is taking state. That will always stand out," Robinson said. "But I really enjoyed spending time with the team, especially off the court when we had team dinners together and things like that. Winning games obviously was a lot of fun, too."

Robinson said his career ended on a good note, but it could have gone either way. Two straight one-point losses, including a 48-47 decision to Eagle in the District 3 tournament was when the team had to come together.

"We knew going into the next game, it was do or die," he said. "We had to win to fight for another day. None of us wanted to have it end that soon, so we did what we had to do."

Percifield ended up scoring 27 points and Kody Olson had 14. Robinson said he always appreciated playing with Percifield, and called Olson the most-improved player of the season."

Others could say the same of Robinson, whose shooting touch never wavered and will likely result in his records standing for a long time.

TOP LEFT: Randall Robinson and Bronson Trube shake hands during player introductions.

TOP RIGHT: Robinson poses with his parents on "Senior Night."

LOWER RIGHT: A couple of Mountain View fans show Robinson's cut-out face as part of the team's season-long promotion.

